

**Senate File 336 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 336

BY SHIPLEY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring that regents universities and community  
2 colleges waive a percentage of the tuition and mandatory  
3 fees for children of veterans with service-connected  
4 disabilities.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 260C.14, Code 2023, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 25. a. Waive the applicable amount of  
4 tuition and mandatory fees determined pursuant to paragraph "b"  
5 for a child of a disabled veteran of the United States armed  
6 services if all of the following conditions are met:

7 (1) The child satisfies all of the following criteria:

8 (a) Is the biological child of the veteran or is the adopted  
9 child of the veteran, if the adoption occurred prior to the  
10 child's eighteenth birthday.

11 (b) Is registered with the United States selective service  
12 system, if required by 50 U.S.C. app. §451 et seq.

13 (c) Is not currently confined in a jail, prison, or  
14 correctional facility.

15 (d) Is not currently in default on any federal student  
16 loans.

17 (e) Is not currently repaying any federal student loans.

18 (f) Is not currently disqualified from receiving federal  
19 student aid due to a criminal conviction.

20 (g) Is classified as a resident for purposes of tuition and  
21 mandatory fees and is a United States citizen or a noncitizen  
22 who is eligible for federal student aid.

23 (h) Applies to the community college for admission prior to  
24 the child's thirty-third birthday.

25 (i) Maintains satisfactory academic performance, if the  
26 child received a tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
27 subsection during the prior semester or the trimester or  
28 quarter equivalent.

29 (2) The veteran satisfies all of the following criteria:

30 (a) Was a resident of this state at the time of enlistment  
31 in the United States armed services or resided in this state  
32 for at least five years prior to the date the student applied  
33 to the community college for admission.

34 (b) Served in the United States armed services during a  
35 conflict or war or performed duty equally hazardous that was

1 recognized by the award of a service or campaign medal of the  
2 United States.

3 (c) Suffered a service-connected death or a permanent  
4 service-connected disability, as certified by the United States  
5 department of veterans affairs.

6 (d) Was discharged under honorable conditions.

7 b. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under  
8 this subsection shall equal the veteran's permanent  
9 service-connected disability rating percentage, as certified  
10 by the United States department of veterans affairs. In the  
11 case of a veteran whose death was officially certified as  
12 service-connected by the United States department of veterans  
13 affairs, the tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
14 subsection shall equal one hundred percent.

15 c. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
16 subsection and the tuition and mandatory fee waiver available  
17 under section 262.9, subsection 39, applies to tuition and  
18 mandatory fees for residents for not more than one hundred  
19 twenty credit hours combined at a community college or an  
20 institution of higher learning governed by the state board of  
21 regents that is eligible to participate in a federal student  
22 aid program authorized under Tit. IV of the federal Higher  
23 Education Act of 1965, Pub. L. No. 89-329, as amended.

24 d. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
25 subsection shall be available to a child who satisfies all of  
26 the conditions under paragraph "a" for not more than eight  
27 academic years beginning the academic year the student is first  
28 approved for the tuition and mandatory fee waiver.

29 e. Tuition and mandatory fees for prior years of enrollment  
30 shall not be waived under this subsection.

31 f. The Iowa department of veterans affairs shall determine  
32 the eligibility of any applicant for a tuition and mandatory  
33 fee waiver under this subsection.

34 Sec. 2. Section 262.9, Code 2023, is amended by adding the  
35 following new subsection:

1     NEW SUBSECTION. 39. a. Direct the institutions of higher  
2 learning governed by the board to waive the applicable amount  
3 of tuition and mandatory fees determined pursuant to paragraph  
4 "b" for a child of a disabled veteran of the United States armed  
5 services if all of the following conditions are met:

6       (1) The child satisfies all of the following criteria:

7       (a) Is the biological child of the veteran or is the adopted  
8 child of the veteran, if the adoption occurred prior to the  
9 child's eighteenth birthday.

10      (b) Is registered with the United States selective service  
11 system, if required by 50 U.S.C. app. §451 et seq.

12      (c) Is not currently confined in a jail, prison, or  
13 correctional facility.

14      (d) Is not currently in default on any federal student  
15 loans.

16      (e) Is not currently repaying any federal student loans.

17      (f) Is not currently disqualified from receiving federal  
18 student aid due to a criminal conviction.

19      (g) Is classified as a resident for purposes of tuition and  
20 mandatory fees and is a United States citizen or a noncitizen  
21 who is eligible for federal student aid.

22      (h) Applies to the institution of higher learning for  
23 admission prior to the child's thirty-third birthday.

24      (i) Maintains satisfactory academic performance, if the  
25 child received a tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
26 subsection during the prior semester or the trimester or  
27 quarter equivalent.

28      (2) The veteran satisfies all of the following criteria:

29      (a) Was a resident of this state at the time of enlistment  
30 in the United States armed services or resided in this state  
31 for at least five years prior to the date the student applied  
32 to the institution of higher learning for admission.

33      (b) Served in the United States armed services during a  
34 conflict or war or performed duty equally hazardous that was  
35 recognized by the award of a service or campaign medal of the

1 United States.

2 (c) Suffered a service-connected death or a permanent  
3 service-connected disability, as certified by the United States  
4 department of veterans affairs.

5 (d) Was discharged under honorable conditions.

6 b. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under  
7 this subsection shall equal the veteran's permanent  
8 service-connected disability rating percentage, as certified  
9 by the United States department of veterans affairs. In the  
10 case of a veteran whose death was officially certified as  
11 service-connected by the United States department of veterans  
12 affairs, the tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
13 subsection shall equal one hundred percent.

14 c. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
15 subsection and the tuition and mandatory fee waiver available  
16 under section 260C.14, subsection 25, applies to tuition and  
17 mandatory fees for residents for not more than one hundred  
18 twenty credit hours combined at an institution of higher  
19 learning or a community college that is eligible to participate  
20 in a federal student aid program authorized under Tit. IV of  
21 the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, Pub. L. No. 89-329,  
22 as amended, at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional  
23 level.

24 d. The tuition and mandatory fee waiver under this  
25 subsection shall be available to a child who satisfies all of  
26 the conditions under paragraph "a" for not more than eight  
27 academic years beginning the academic year the student is first  
28 approved for the tuition and mandatory fee waiver.

29 e. Tuition and mandatory fees for prior years of enrollment  
30 shall not be waived under this subsection.

31 f. The Iowa department of veterans affairs shall determine  
32 the eligibility of any applicant for a tuition and mandatory  
33 fee waiver under this subsection.

34 Sec. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection  
35 3, shall not apply to this Act.

1

EXPLANATION

2

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3

4 This bill requires that regents universities and community  
5 colleges waive a percentage of the tuition and mandatory fees  
6 for children of veterans with service-connected disabilities.

7 The bill provides that, in order to qualify for the waiver  
8 of a percentage of the tuition and mandatory fees, the child  
9 of the veteran must satisfy all of the following criteria: is  
10 the biological child of the veteran or the adopted child of  
11 the veteran; is registered with the United States selective  
12 service system, if required; is not currently confined in a  
13 jail, prison, or correctional facility; is not currently in  
14 default on any federal student loans; is not currently repaying  
15 any federal student loans; is not currently disqualified from  
16 receiving federal student aid due to a criminal conviction; is  
17 classified as a resident for purposes of tuition and mandatory  
18 fees and is a United States citizen or a noncitizen who is  
19 eligible for federal student aid; applies to the regents  
20 university or community college for admission prior to the  
21 child's 33rd birthday; and maintains satisfactory academic  
22 performance, if the child received a tuition and mandatory  
23 fee waiver previously. The bill also provides that, in order  
24 to qualify for the waiver of a percentage of the tuition  
25 and mandatory fees, the veteran must satisfy all of the  
26 following criteria: was a resident of this state at the time  
27 of enlistment in the United States armed services or resided  
28 in this state for at least five years prior to the date the  
29 student applied to the regents university or community college  
30 for admission, served in the United States armed services  
31 during a conflict or war or performed duty equally hazardous  
32 that was recognized by the award of a service or campaign medal  
33 of the United States, suffered a service-connected death or  
34 a permanent service-connected disability, and was discharged  
35 under honorable conditions.

1     The bill establishes that the tuition and mandatory fee  
2 waiver shall equal the veteran's permanent service-connected  
3 disability rating percentage, as certified by the United States  
4 department of veterans affairs. The bill provides that in  
5 the case of a veteran whose death was officially certified as  
6 service-connected by the United States department of veterans  
7 affairs, the tuition and mandatory fee waiver shall equal 100  
8 percent.

9     The bill provides that the tuition and mandatory fee waiver  
10 applies to tuition and mandatory fees for residents for not  
11 more than 120 credits combined at a regents university or  
12 community college. The bill also provides that the tuition  
13 and mandatory fee waiver is only available to the child of a  
14 veteran for a maximum of eight academic years.

15     The bill establishes that tuition and mandatory fees for  
16 prior years of enrollment shall not be waived under the bill's  
17 provisions.

18     The bill requires the Iowa department of veterans affairs to  
19 determine the eligibility of any applicant for a tuition and  
20 mandatory fee waiver under the bill's provisions.

21     The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
22 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section  
23 25B.2(3), which would relieve a political subdivision from  
24 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of  
25 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,  
26 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state  
27 mandate included in the bill.